Message Text

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 01076 022239Z ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCS-03 FBO-02 MCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05 CCO-00 OC-06 OPR-02 USSS-00 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SY-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-07 /106 W

O R 021310Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3693

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

CONFIDENTIAL NDJAMENA 1076

CORRECTEDCOPYTEXT

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CD

SUBJ: GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE MAINTAINS THAT ATTACK ON MILITARY CAMP DESIGNED TO ASSASSINATE THE PRESIDENT.

REF: NDJAMENA 1041 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING IS ROUGH TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL LATE APRIL 1. QUOTE: IN THE NIGHT OF THURSDAY TO FRIDAY THE HEADQUARTERS OF SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL WERE THE OBJECT OF THE ATTEMPTED OCCUPATION CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NDJAME 01076 022239Z

BY A GROUP OF ARMED INDIVIDUALS LED BY SUB-LIEUTENANT BRAHIM ABAKAR KOUMBA. THIS LATTER RECENTLY EXPELLED FROM PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM AT THE AERONAUTIC INSTITUTE AMAURY DE LA GRANGE AT HAZEBROUCK RETURNED FROM FRANCE ABOUT 20 DAYS AGO. HE WAS ABLE TO GET TOGETHER A SMALL GROUP ON THE PRETEXT OF INJUSTICES TO THOSE WHO SERVED CHAD.

- 2. THE APPROACHES TO THE PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE HAVE SERVED AS THE PLACE OF ACTION FOR THIS SMALL GROUP WHICH WAS OVERCOME BY THE ENERGETIC REACTION OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE FORCES OF ORDER. AMONG THESE WERE COUNTED A DOZEN WOUNDED OF WHOM ONE DIED LATER OF HIS WOUNDS. THIS WAS LT. COL. ALI DABIO, A MEMBER OF THE STATE MAJOR OF THE ARMED FORCES. THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL IS WELL AND SAFE.
- 3. THE TROUBLEMAKERS OF LAST NIGHT WERE MOTIVATED BELIEVING THAT THEY COULD OCCUPY THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME ORGAN OF THE NATION AND TO ELIMINATE PHYSICALLY GENERAL FELIX MALLOUM NGAKOUTOU BEY-NDI WHOSE PEERS UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED HIM TO THE CHIEF OF STATE OF CHAD FOLLOWING THE ACTION OF SALVATION OF APRIL 13, 1975. THESE ILLUSIONS WERE QUICKLY DISSIPATED BY THE SUDDEN ENERGETIC REACTION.
- 4. INQUIRY HAS BEEN OPENED. THE FIRST INDICATIONS RECEIVED GIVE HOPE FOR A RAPID OUTCOME.
- 5. SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL STRONG IN THE CONFIDENCE PLACED IN IT BY GROFAT (GROUP OFF OFFICERS OF CHADIAN ARMED FORCES) AND THE CHADIAN NATION WARN ALL THOSE WHETHER NAIVE OR TRAITORS AND THEIR INSPIRERS WHO UNDER VAIN PRETEXT CONSIDER THEMSELVES ABLE TO PROPAGATE SUCH A BAD IMAGE OF THE CHADIAN ARMED FORCES WHICH ARE THE GUARANTORS OF THE UNITY, OF THE INTEGRITY AND OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHAD.
- 6. IN ADDITION, A CURFEW IS IMPOSED FROM 9 P.M. TO 6 A.M. BUT ALL NORMAL ACTIVITIES MAY BE UNDERTAKEN FROM SATURDAY CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NDJAME 01076 022239Z

MORNING AT 6:00. NDJAMENA AIRPORT NOTABLY WILL BE REOPEN TO AIR TRAFFIC. IN CONTRAST, ALL RIVER TRAFFIC IS FORBIDDEN EXCEPT FOR THE TANK TRUCKS WHICH PROVIDE THE CAPITAL WITH FUEL. END QUOTE.

7. COMMENT: THE COMMUNIQUE MAKES NO MENTION OF RELEASE OF PRISONERS WHICH USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES HAD EARLIER INDICATED AS PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE ATTACK. ONE SOURCE, TRUSTWORTHY IN THE PAST, MAINTAINS THAT ATTACK HAD BEEN FORESEEN AS MUCH AS TWO WEEKS AGO AND THAT LOYAL TROOPS WERE ALERTED TO REPEL IT. IN VIEW OF LENGTH OF FIRE FIGHT WHICH APPEARED TO LAST MORE THAN 5 HOURS IT SEEMS DOUBTFUL THAT PREPARATIONS, IF MADE, WERE VERY THOROUGH. CITY QUIET AND BUSINESS MUCH AS USUAL AS OF 1300 LOCAL.BRADFORD

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TAGS: PINS, CD, (KOUMBA, BRAHIM ABAKAR), (MALLOUM, FELIX)

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